

112TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6108

To reduce the pay of Members of Congress who miss votes because of  
campaigning for election to another office.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 12, 2012

Mr. FLORES introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To reduce the pay of Members of Congress who miss votes  
because of campaigning for election to another office.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. REDUCTION IN PAY OF MEMBERS WHO MISS**  
4                   **VOTES BECAUSE OF CAMPAIGNING FOR**  
5                   **ELECTION TO OTHER OFFICE.**

6       (a) REDUCTION IN PAY.—Section 601(a) of the Leg-  
7       islative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 31) is  
8       amended—

1                         (1) in paragraph (1), in the matter following  
2                          subparagraph (C), by striking “paragraph (2)” and  
3                          inserting “paragraphs (2) and (3)”; and

4                         (2) by adding at the end the following new  
5                          paragraph:

6                         “(3) REDUCTION IN PAY OF MEMBERS MISSING  
7                         VOTES BECAUSE OF CAMPAIGNING FOR ELECTION  
8                         TO OTHER OFFICE.—

9                         “(A) MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE.—

10                         “(i) REDUCTION.—If during a Congress a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress) is a candidate for election to any office other than the office of Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress, the rate of pay otherwise applicable to the Member for any month during that Congress shall be reduced by the Member’s missed vote percentage for the most recent month prior to that month.

22                         “(ii) MISSED VOTE PERCENTAGE DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the ‘missed  
23                         vote percentage’ of a Member of the House  
24                         of Representatives described in clause (i)

1           with respect to any month is equal to the  
2           percentage of votes taken in the House of  
3           Representatives during that month (includ-  
4           ing votes taken in the Committee of the  
5           Whole House on the State of the Union)  
6           for which the Member did not cast a vote  
7           because the Member was absent from the  
8           House on the day the vote was taken, un-  
9           less on such day the Member did not en-  
10          gage in any campaign-related activity for  
11          the election described in clause (i).

12           “(iii) DUTIES OF CLERK.—The Clerk  
13          of the House of Representatives shall—

14               “(I) consult with the Federal  
15              Election Commission on an ongoing  
16              basis to determine which Members (if  
17              any) are candidates for election to any  
18              office other than the office of Rep-  
19              resentative in, or Delegate or Resident  
20              Commissioner to, the Congress; and

21               “(II) provide the Chief Adminis-  
22              trative Officer of the House of Rep-  
23              resentatives with such information as  
24              the Chief Administrative Officer may

1                   require in order to carry out this sub-  
2                   paragraph.

3                   “(B) SENATORS.—

4                   “(i) REDUCTION.—If during a Con-  
5                   gress a Senator is a candidate for election  
6                   to any office other than the office of Sen-  
7                   ator, the rate of pay otherwise applicable  
8                   to the Senator for any month during that  
9                   Congress shall be reduced by the Senator’s  
10                  missed vote percentage for the most recent  
11                  month prior to that month.

12                  “(ii) MISSED VOTE PERCENTAGE DE-  
13                  FINED.—In this paragraph, the ‘missed  
14                  vote percentage’ of a Senator described in  
15                  clause (i) with respect to any month is  
16                  equal to the percentage of votes taken in  
17                  the Senate during that month for which  
18                  the Senator did not cast a vote because the  
19                  Senator was absent from the Senate on the  
20                  day the vote was taken, unless on such day  
21                  the Senator did not engage in any cam-  
22                  paign-related activity for the election de-  
23                  scribed in clause (i).

24                  “(iii) DUTIES OF SECRETARY.—The  
25                  Secretary of the Senate shall consult with

1                   the Federal Election Commission on an on-  
2                   going basis to determine which Senators (if  
3                   any) are candidates for election to any of-  
4                   fice other than the office of Senator.

5                   “(C) TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO REDUCE  
6                   THE PUBLIC DEBT.—For each fiscal year, the  
7                   Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer from  
8                   the general fund of the Treasury to the account  
9                   established by section 3113(d) of title 31,  
10                  United States Code, an amount equal to the  
11                  difference between the aggregate amount ex-  
12                  pended for the pay of Members of Congress for  
13                  the fiscal year and the aggregate amount that  
14                  would have been expended for the pay of Mem-  
15                  bers of Congress for the fiscal year but for the  
16                  operation of this paragraph.”.

17                  (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
18                  subsection (a) shall take effect January 1, 2013.

